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Mayor Sam Liccardo's Inaugural Address Focuses on the Future
"Innovation takes risk, and risk requires courage."
"Together, we can chart a new path, and re-imagine our city."

SAN JOSE – Now is the time for San José to imagine the future and harness the City's spirit of innovation to solve problems. That was the message from Mayor Sam Liccardo's Inaugural Address.

The remarks followed the Oath of Office for Liccardo, San Jose's 65th Mayor, and newly elected Councilmembers Charles "Chappie" Jones, Raul Peralez, Madgalena Carrasco, and Tam Nguyen. San José, Northern California's largest city and America's tenth largest, is the capital of Silicon Valley and among the nation's most diverse cities.

"Let's embrace our city's distinctive identity, one characterized by our diversity, our openness, and our culture of innovation," Mayor Liccardo said.

"Innovation takes risk, and risk requires courage," Mayor Liccardo said. "Collectively, we must muster the courage: to try what has been untried, to open our city's workings to public scrutiny, to allow volunteer energy to loosen city hall's grip on every task, to collaborate with resolute adversaries, and above all, to fail, to learn, and to endeavor again."

Fiscal responsibility remains critical in a time of limited resources, Mayor Liccardo said, however, "In a time of public-sector scarcity, we can only flourish by creating a City Hall as innovative as our extraordinary community."

"We need to need to think differently about how we govern, and how we serve our residents," Mayor Liccardo said. "We'll build new partnerships, leveraging the resources and expertise of non-profit organizations and private-sector leaders ready to join us in tackling homelessness or in boosting a 6th grader's reading skills. We'll engage collaboratively in regional approaches to problem-solving for those issues—like rising housing costs, crime, traffic congestion, and drought—that do not respect city limits."

The 2015 San José Inaugural Ceremony will be broadcast on Civic Center Television (Comcast Channel 26): Tuesday, January 6 at 8:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 7 at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Thursday, January 8 at 7 p.m., Friday, January 9 at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Saturday, January 10 at 10 a.m.; and Sunday, January 11 at noon and 7 p.m., as well available for online viewing at www.sanjoseca.gov.